[The above account of Miss Bacon's rather heroic experiments is of special interest, since it proves conclusively a fact which has hitherto been gravely questioned; for serious doubts have been expressed regarding the poisonous properties of Actaea. Thus, in a very detailed discussion of the genus by Messrs. J. U. & C. G. Lloyd (Drugs and Medicines of North America, 232–243), we find the following note: "The English plant, Actaea spicata, has acquired a reputation as a poisonous plant that it seems to us must be in most part unmerited. By old writers the plant was said to grow in dark recesses and to emit a fetid smell, which attracted- toads, hence it is called toad plant. The berries were supposed to be poisonous, and the entire plant to poison cattle. Our native plants, which could hardly be distinguished from the foreign, seem to be entirely innocent of poisonous properties, and certainly do not emit any disagreeable odor."— Ed.]

LIST OF DESMIDS FOUND IN CARVER'S POND, BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS.

JOSEPH A. CUSHMAN.

THE making of this list has taken some of the spare time of three summers, but the time thus spent has been well repaid. Interest was awakened by the discovery of one or two species which were given as southern in Wolle's Desmids of the United States. By persistent search many species were found, which, according to the latest edition of that work, have not hitherto been reported from this section of the country.

The pond in which these were collected is admirably situated for such plants and abounds in other forms of Algae as well as in Desmids. It is a shallow pond, but few portions being over six feet deep and the larger part of its area averaging less than half this depth during the summer months. In spite of its shallowness it is not stagnant as it is fed by two brooks and has an outlet at the opposite end. It covers about forty-two acres and is large enough and the conditions of its borders sufficiently varied to give a considerable difference in species in different parts. A record was kept in order to determine the frequency of occurrence of various species. The list is here given with the author of the species as given in the last edition of Wolle's Desmids of the United States.

Hyalotheca dissiliens (Smith) Breb. Seems to occur most frequently in the middle of Spring, being much less frequent later in the season. Common. Found nearly choking a small pool by the side of one of the brooks which feed the pond.

Bambusina Brebissonii Kg. Found frequently and in various stages of development.

Desmidium cylindricum Grev. Occasional.

D. Swartzii Ag. Very common.

D. aptogonium Breb. Not commonly found.

D. Baileyi Ralfs. Very common. Intermingled often with *D. Swartzii.*

Sphaerozosma pulchrum Bailey. Typical form frequent. Var. *planum* Wolle. Found frequently.

S. filiforme Rab. Fairly frequent. (No sheath observed.)

Spirotaenia condensata Breb. Rare. But few specimens found.

Penium closterioides Ralfs. Common.

Closterium macilentum Breb. Fairly rare; found but a few times.

C. acerosum (Schrank) Ehrb. Very common.

C. striolatum Ehrb. Common.

C. Dianae Ehrb. Common.

C. acuminatum Kg. Frequently found.

C. robustum Hast. Found at surface in September 1900 in great numbers with Anabaena, etc. Have not found this form before or since.

C. rostratum Ehrb. Fairly common.

C. setaceum Ehrb. Frequent.

C. Brebissonii Delp. Common in a collection made July 4, 1902. Not observed before.

C. ovale Ralfs. Common.

Docidium crenulatum (Ehrb.) Rab. Fairly frequent.

D. trabecula (Ehrb.) Naeg. Common.

D. truncatum Breb. Fairly common.

D. baculum (Breb.) D'By. Fairly frequent.

D. nodosum Bail. Fairly frequent.

D. coronatum. Rab. Frequent.

D. repandum Wolle. Rare.

Cosmarium moniliforme Ralfs. Fairly common.

C. tumidum Lund. Common.

C. taxichondrum Lund. Common.

C. pyramidatum Breb. Common.

C. margaritiferum Menegh. Common.

C. Botrytis Menegh. Common.

C. reniforme (Ralfs.) Arch. Granules fully as large as figured by Wolle. Not rare.

C. suborbiculare Wood. Frequent.
C. amoenum var. *tumidum* Wolle. Frequent.
C. Schliephackeanum Grun. Rare.
C. ornatum Ralfs. Common.
Tetmemorus Brebissonii (Menegh.) Ralfs. Fairly frequent.
Arthrodesmus octocornis Ehrb. Frequent.
Euastrum magnificum Wolle. Rare.
E. ansatum Ralfs. Common.
E. affine Ralfs. Common.
E. verrucosum (Ehrb.) Ralfs. Fairly common.
E. gemmatum Breb. Not common.
E. elegans Kg. Fairly common.
E. integrum Wolle. Frequent.
Xanthidium antilopaeum (Breb.) Kg. var. *polymazum* Nord. Few specimens found.
Micrasterias radiosa (Ag.) Ralfs. Common.
M. furcata (Ag.) Ralfs. Not common but have found frequent specimens, some deformed ones with the second pair of basal arms wanting.
M. Americana (Ehrb.) Kg. Not rare, but not occurring as frequently as other forms.
M. Americana var. *recta* Wolle. Rare; seen only a few times.
M. Mahabuleshwarensis Hobson. Fairly frequent.
M. laticeps Nord. Fairly frequent.
M. muricata Bailey. Frequent.
Staurastrum polymorphum Breb. Common, in various forms, varying in semi-cells of the same individual.
S. macrocerum Wolle. Rare.
S. leptocladum Nord. Not common.
S. anatinum Cooke & Wills. Fairly frequent.
S. muticum Breb. Common.
S. orbiculare (Ehrb.) Ralfs. Common.
S. crenulatum Naeg. Fairly common.
S. punctulatum Breb. Fairly common.

Also the following species of Pediastrum may be mentioned here as common occurring with the Desmids.

Pediastrum Boryanum (Turpin) Menegh.
P. pertusum Kg.
P. Ehrenbergii (Corda) A. Br.

Bridgewater, Massachusetts.